Executive Update

Milwaukee County Executive Scott Walker's Weekly Newsletter

December 7, 2007

Joint Statement from County Executive Walker and Chairman Holloway on Review of Discontinued Pension Practices

County fully supports comprehensive review of misconduct allegations Milwaukee County Executive Scott Walker and Board Chairman Lee Holloway released the following joint statement in reference to the review of past pension practices in Milwaukee County: We fully support the review into the now discontinued pension buy-back and buy-in programs in Milwaukee County. When questions were first raised, it was the County Corporation Counsel and Department of Audit who brought them to the District Attorney's attention. We fully support the District Attorney's review and encourage all County employees to cooperate. The County is committed to a thorough and comprehensive review, including any allegations of misconduct.

We will also provide any assistance the DA requests to complete this review."



Walker hosts Menorah Lighting Ceremony



County Executive Walker and Rabbis Israel, Shmaya and Mendel Shmotkin of Lubavitch of Wisconsin hosted a public menorah lighting ceremony in the rotunda of the Milwaukee County Courthouse. An eight-foot menorah will be on display for the Jewish holiday of Chanukah through December 12th. The elementary school Hillel Academy choir accompanied by its African drum band performed Chanukah songs and music for the occasion.

USS Freedom kick-off



Walker offered local business leaders background on the commissioning of the LCS-1 Freedom ship commissioning scheduled to take place at Veterans Park next fall.

Skybus welcomed to GMIA



County Executive Walker was joined by Airport Director Barry Bateman to officially welcome Denis Carvill, Vice President of Airports/Ground Operations of Skybus Airlines, to General Mitchell International Airport (GMIA). A company that bills itself as "the \$10 airline" offers 10 seats for \$10 fares on each one-way flight and began low-fare service between Milwaukee and Columbus, Ohio.

Community Events

County Executive Walker welcomed the crowd at the 19th Annual Christmas in the Ward Tree Lighting Ceremony, participated in the West Allis Christmas Parade, joined a panel of business leaders and elected officials for the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel's final taped Round Table Discussion, and addressed the 2007 International Health Board meeting at Marquette University.

This weekend Walker will take part in the Pearl Harbor Day Memorial Service at the War Memorial and the Lubavitch of Wisconsin Parade for their Chanukah celebration at the Bayshore Mall Rotunda.

Have fond memories of Samson, the Milwaukee County Zoo gorilla through the 1970s? Channel 36 will air "Samson: Then & Now," December 8 at 3:30pm.

County Christmas Tree

The county Christmas Tree was given to the county by Bud and Mary Brauer and is displayed in the Courthouse Rotunda. Mr. Brauer received a heart and kidney transplant from Gabriel O. Ramirez-Lyons, and gave the tree in Gabriel's honor. The two families will meet at the employee tree trimming and tree lighting. Read the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel story at this link: http://www.jsonline.com/story/index.aspx?id=694201

To see the menorah lighting ceremony, visit this YouTube link:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dRDKg3kthEM

Red Arrow Slice of Ice Opens for Season









County Executive Walker was joined by local sports team mascots, including the Brewers Polish Racing Sausage, Brad Beach with the Wave, and Roscoe with the Admirals, to promote the opening of the Red Arrow Park "Slice of Ice" skating rink on Channel 4 with reporter Tom Murray and Fox6 with Gus Gnorski. For information on rink hours, please visit www.countyparks.com.